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would be read in straight lines from right to left, and *vice versa*, and so avoiding that loss of space which would otherwise be considerable in embossing for the blind." We willingly give publicity to Mr. Martin's statement; and trust that the attention of those interested in the musical education of the blind may be drawn to the subject.

A VERY excellent reading, with musical illustrations, of the principal scenes from Goethe's *Faust* (translated, with remarkable closeness to the original, by Mr. C. T. Brooks) was given by Dr. G. G. Zerff on the 12th ult., at West London College, Bayswater, an educational establishment conducted by Dr. Davies. Dr. Zerff is already known as an earnest student of Goethe's poem by his publication of an edition with critical and explanatory notes; and we need scarcely say, therefore, that, apart from the poetical feeling and dramatic energy which he displayed in the varied phases of character, with which the work abounds, an intelligent and truthful perception of the meaning of his author was everywhere apparent. The introduction of the Harmonium, well played by Mr. Francis, had an excellent effect in many portions of the reading—especially in the Cathedral scene. Several choral compositions were also sung by the pupils of the College; and one of Schubert's songs, illustrative of the poem, was very correctly given by Master Benjamin. Dr. Zerff may fairly congratulate himself upon this, his first experiment (as he announced) in dramatic reading before an English audience.

WE are glad to find that Mr. G. A. Macfarren has been delivering six Lectures on Harmony at the Royal Institution, the last of the series taking place on the 2nd inst. The study of the principles of music appears at length to be escaping from the narrow circle of professors and amateurs to which it has so long been confined; and Mr. Macfarren deserves every credit for his zeal in urging the subject upon the attention of the scientific public.

ON Monday, the 4th ult., a Concert was given at the Myddelton Hall, Islington, by Mrs. W. E. Stapleton and her pupils, assisted by Madame Clara West and Herr Nordstrom, &c. Mrs. Stapleton's pupils acquitted themselves in a manner which reflected great credit on their own efforts as well as those of their instructress.

A MORNING CONCERT was given by the Blind pupils at the School of the Society for teaching the Blind to Read, Upper Avenue-road, Regent's-park, on the 12th ult. The programme contained many pieces by the great masters, and the manner in which they were performed reflected great credit on the pupils and their instructor, Mr. E. Barnes. During the interval between the parts the pupils read from embossed type, and showed considerable improvement. The chair was taken by the Rev. Henry Sharpe.

THE West Central Choral Society gave a Concert, on behalf of the Somer's Town Brill Mission Schools, at St. James's Hall, on the 15th ult. The principals announced were Miss E. Robertson, Madame Sainton Dolby, Madame Patey Whytock, Miss Ada Percival, Mr. R. Muir, Mr. Ralph Wilkinson, Mr. J. T. Beale, and Mr. J. G. Patey, vocalists; and Signor Piatti and Mons. Sainton instrumentalists—the latter gentleman was, however, unable to attend, owing to indisposition. Mr. G. H. Robinson was the pianist, and Mr. Constantine was the conductor. The programme consisted of Beethoven's Mass in C, and a selection; the Mass was accompanied by a small band. The second part of the concert appeared to please the audience most, which might be attributed to the fact of the solo singers and Signor Piatti, violoncellist, being well known artists, who invariably give satisfaction. The attendance was large.

AN Evening Concert was given at the St. James's National School-rooms, Hatcham, on Thursday, the 7th ult., in aid of the school funds, by the band of the Orpheus Amateur Musical Society, assisted by Miss P. H. Wilson, Messrs. Booth, Chabot, Jones, and Willis. The programme contained some excellent instrumental pieces, the best performed being the overtures to Auber's *Masaniello* and Blancheteau's *Cleopatra*. Miss Wilson's singing of "Happy be thy dreams" and "Thy voice is near," was particularly effective. Mr. A. Booth, a gentleman with a good tenor voice, acquitted himself well in Wallace's "Home of my heart," (*Lurline*), and Mendelssohn's "Garland." Gounod's *Nazareth* was remarkably well rendered by Mr. T. Willis, and deservedly encored. The promoter of the concert, Mr. E. Chabot, favoured his friends with "If doughty deeds," by Sullivan; and Mr. Stanley Jones sang Henry Smart's "Rhine Maiden," with excellent taste.

A CORRESPONDENT—Mr. Charles Shuttleworth, of Calverley—informs us, in reply to an enquiry respecting hand-bell ringing in our last number, that "a good work on Change-ringing (price 10s. 6d.) may be had of Mr. Sottenstall, Change-ringer of Sowerby, Yorkshire."

MR. JOSEPH BARNBY'S Choir met on Tuesday, the 19th ult., at the Lower Hall, Exeter Hall, for the first time; and if we may judge from the able manner in which the members sang most of the compositions literally at first sight, there can be little doubt of the ultimate success of the enterprise. The choir already consists of more than 200 voices.

ON the 23rd ult., in the 91st year of his age, Sir George Smart passed from us, with so firm a consciousness that he was dying that we hear he even issued directions for his funeral. Few of the rising generation may perhaps be aware of the high

position he held during several years in England; but many now living remember with pleasure how consistently and honourably he pursued his professional career, and how deeply rooted was his love for art and artists. He was intimately associated with most of the festival performances which gave such an impetus to the spread of music in this country; and it may be called to mind that he conducted the first performance of Mendelssohn's *St. Paul* in England (at Liverpool), and that the English edition of the oratorio is dedicated to him by the publisher, Mr. Novello, in acknowledgment of the ability he displayed, and the kind interest he manifested on the occasion. Although long estranged, by increasing years, from the world of art, his loss will be deeply felt by all who respect and value a straightforward, true, and estimable man.

THE decease of Mr. Frederick Charles Horton, the librarian and copyist of the Royal Italian Opera for a period of 31 years, has been the means of calling forth a spontaneous tribute of good feeling from very many members of the musical profession. Mr. Costa (who has known him ever since his connection with Covent Garden Theatre) being amongst the most prominent. During his illness he showed him the utmost kindness; and at Kensal-green Cemetery, where the funeral took place, a large number of artists, amongst whom we observed Mr. Costa and Mr. Leslie, were assembled to pay the last respect to his memory.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

* * * *Notices of concerts and other information supplied by our friends in the country, must be forwarded as early as possible after the occurrence; otherwise they cannot be inserted. Our correspondents must specifically denote the date of each concert, for without such date no notice can be taken of the performance.*

We beg to remind our correspondents that all notices of country concerts, whether written or extracted from newspapers, must be accompanied by the name and address of the person who sends them.

Our Correspondents will greatly oblige by writing all names as clearly as possible, as we cannot be responsible for any mistakes which may occur.

We cannot undertake to return offered contributions; the authors, therefore, will do well to retain copies.

Notice is sent to all Subscribers whose payment (in advance) is exhausted. The paper will be discontinued where the Subscription is not renewed. We again remind those who are disappointed in obtaining back numbers, that although the music pages are always stereotyped, only a sufficient quantity of the rest of the paper is printed to supply the current sale.

MUSICUS.—"Thorough Bass" is an old term, implying a Bass figured throughout. A knowledge of the chords indicated by these figures is what our correspondent is desirous of obtaining; and for this purpose we should recommend either Mozart's "Succinct Thoro' Bass School," or Cate's "Treatise on Harmony," both published in Novello's "Library for the diffusion of Musical knowledge," at the office of the Musical Times.

W. Aldridge.—Handel's "Acis and Galatea" is a *Cantata*: certainly not an *Oratorio*, nor an *Opera*, although it was produced on the stage by Mr. Macready.

K. S.—Our correspondent is referred to our answer to Musicus respecting works on Harmony. The second question we are quite unable to reply to.

Brief Summary of Country News.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for any opinions expressed in this Summary; as all the notices are either collated from the local papers, or supplied to us by occasional correspondents.

ANDOVER.—On Thursday evening, January 24th, Mr. Bennett's choral class gave a Concert in the town hall. The programme included a variety of secular music, glees, choruses, duets, and songs, which were performed in a very creditable manner. Among the concerted pieces, the best were "Who is Sylvia?" by Macfarren, and Pearsall's "Come, let us be merry." The following songs were sung:—"Love's request" (Reichardt), by Mr. C. Jones, "The Monks of Old" (Hatton), by Mr. Wakeford, "Sparkling streamlet" (Pridham), by Miss Musard, "Stonewall Jackson" (Blamplin), by Mr. J. W. Jones, "The liquid gem" (Wrighton), by Miss Deadman, and "Just before the battle, mother" (Root), by Mr. J. W. Jones. The concert was very successful, and several encores testified the satisfaction of the audience. Mr. Bennett accompanied.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Monday, January 28th, the organ in St. Thomas's church, which has been re-built and enlarged by Mr. Besward, was opened by Mr. A. J. Sutton, the organist. The instrument is well balanced as regards the stops; the tone is rich, full, and mellow, and we believe that it gave complete satisfaction to the large congregation who attend the services.

BOLTON.—The Philharmonic Society gave its second Concert for the season in the Temperance Hall, on Tuesday evening, the 5th ult. The programme included Weber's Overture *Preciosa*, a portion of one of Beethoven's Symphonies, &c., all being well played by the band. The vocalists were Miss Annie Cox, Miss Kate Wynne, and Mr. Patey. Mr. Ellis Roberts played several solos on the harp with great effect. Mr. Staton conducted.

BOSTON SPA, YORKSHIRE.—On Monday evening, the 4th ult., a grand Evening Concert was given in the lecture hall

in aid of the Boston Spa United Cricket Club. The concert was under the patronage of many of the nobility and gentry of the neighbourhood. The performance on the whole was good, many of the pieces being encored. The orchestra comprised the following:—Leader, Mr. Matthew Arnold; Messrs. Foster, Stevens, Powell, Hebblewaite, Bailey, Brown, and Burnell. The vocalists were—The Misses Whaitte and Powell; Messrs. Whaitte, Kryer, Skelton, and Stubley, assisted by several gentlemen amateurs. Miss Malorie and Mr. Matthew Arnold presided at the pianoforte. The sum realized is, we understand, over £20.

BURSLEM.—The Amateur Musical Society gave its third Concert on Tuesday evening, the 12th ult., in the Temperance Hall. The piece chosen was Schiller's "Lay of the Bell," as set to music by Romberg; and we are glad to be able to congratulate the Society on having given a very fair rendering of it, for their first attempt at a continuous piece. Mr. Beckett took the part of the master bell-founder, in which he acquitted himself very satisfactorily throughout. The principal soprano songs were assigned to Miss Sarah Hammersley and Miss Smith. Messrs. Richmond, Dishley, Ritchie, and Gubbins also rendered good service in the solo passages for tenor and bass. Most of the choruses were well sung—some of them particularly well. The second part of the concert consisted of sacred songs by Miss Colville, Mrs. Hall, Mrs. Alsop, and Mr. Beckett; Mr. Powell conducted.

CANTERBURY.—A very successful concert was given on the 22nd January by Messrs. Cross and Gough, of the Cathedral choir, assisted in the vocal department by Madame Rudersdorff, Mdle. Anna Drasil, Mr. Montem Smith, and Mr. Lawler. In a most enthusiastic notice of the entertainment from a local newspaper, which has been forwarded to us, we are told that the concert givers have encountered an "antagonistic spirit of opposition from some of the musical professors in Canterbury;" and, if so, we are additionally anxious that their efforts to provide a really good concert should be known, although we would willingly dispense with the laudatory remarks appended to the names of each of the vocalists in the programme. Messrs. Cross and Gough appear to have been exceedingly well received in all their songs, and the concert gave the utmost satisfaction to a numerous audience. The vocal music was accompanied on the pianoforte by Signor Randegger, described in the programme as "the talented conductor, pianist, and composer."

CLIFTON.—On Thursday evening, January 31st, the Septett Society gave its second Concert for the season in the Victoria rooms. The number of the performers was increased on this occasion in order to perform Spohr's Nonett in F, the scherzo of which was played so well as to be re-demanded. Beethoven's Septett in E flat, beautifully executed, concluded a most excellent concert. The performers were—Messrs. H. and R. Blagrove, and Messrs. Radcliffe, A. Nicholson, J. O. Brooke, Hutchins, C. Harper, A. W. Waite, and A. C. White.

COCKERMOUTH.—On Thursday evening, the 7th ult., a Concert was given in the Free Masons' Hall by Mr. Wales. There was a large and fashionable audience. The vocalists were Miss Maria Wilson, Messrs. David Lambert, Coverdale, Barton, and Taylor. Miss Wilson sang the Scotch ballad, "Within a mile of Edinboro' town," very sweetly; it was warmly encored, when she gave "Home sweet home." Mr. Lambert sang "The Bell-ringer" and "The Holy Friar," and the audience was amused with his Irish song, "I'm not myself at all." The songs allotted to Mr. Barton were "Oh whisper what thou feelest" and "Thou art so near and yet so far," the latter being re-demanded. Mr. Wales played a Fantasia on American airs on the flute, and also a brilliant solo from *Traviata*. Miss Wales presided at the pianoforte.

CROYDON.—The first Concert of the Croydon Vocal Association was given in the Public Hall on Thursday, the 7th ult., in aid of the fund for the Restoration of the Parish Church so recently destroyed by fire. The principal vocalist was Miss Julia Derby. The instrumental parts were well sustained by Messrs. Wedeymer, Manns, Stehling, and Reed. A Quartet by Haydn was admirably executed by these gentlemen. Mr. George Russell was received, as usual, with applause on taking his seat at the pianoforte. Mr. G. C. Burry conducted.

DONCASTER.—On Tuesday evening, the 5th ult., Mr. J. H. Eyre, the Choirmaster of the Parish Church, gave a Concert of Sacred and Secular Music, at the Town Hall, under the patronage of H. Woodmansey, Esq., Mayor, and the Rev. C. J. Vaughan, D.D., Vicar. The vocalists were Miss Ada Barton, Mrs. Goulden, Mr. Eyre, Mr. Pirih, and Mr. Thornsbys. Mr. Tovey presided at the pianoforte.

DORRINGTON, SPALDING.—On Friday, the 15th ult., the members of the Grammar School Athletic Sports Club gave a Concert of Vocal and Instrumental Music in the School-room. The glees and part-songs most admired were "The Sisters of the Sea," W. Jackson; "The Echo Chorus," from the Berlin Choir Music; and Berger's "Night, lovely night." Amongst the solos may be mentioned "The hazel dell," "The maids of merry England," Ferling; "The three ages of love," Loder; "A motto for every man," H. Clifton; and a comic song, "Mrs. Jones's Musical Party." The Rev. W. R. Carstable, M.A., Head Master of the Grammar School, conducted, and Mr. S. L. Calvert presided at the pianoforte.

DOVER.—The sixth and last of the "Monday Popular Concerts" took place on the 11th ult. at Foster's Wellington Hall, which was filled in every part. The vocalist was Mdle.

Marie Gonde, who was extremely successful in all her solos. Mr. Haag conducted a small band, and elicited loud applause by his solo performance on the violin. Mr. Kemp presided at the pianoforte. Mr. G. H. Payn, under whose sole direction these concerts have been so ably carried out, was to have sung during the evening, but was unfortunately prevented, by a severe cold, from being present to witness the successful termination of his laudable undertaking.

DUBLIN.—The first Concert of the St. George's Choral Union was given on Friday evening, the 15th ult., in the Exhibition Room of the Rotundo. The programme prepared was varied and select, and the arrangements of the hon. sec., Mr. Jocelyn Black, afforded the utmost satisfaction. The first part of the programme was devoted to sacred pieces, whilst the second was set apart for secular music. Mr. E. Burne presided at the pianoforte; and Mr. Phillips conducted.—A very excellent performance of Handel's *Messiah* was given on the 15th ult. by the Choral Union. The overture was admirably played on the organ by Mr. W. Houghton, who presided at the instrument throughout the oratorio with his usual skill and steadiness. All the solo singers were remarkably good, especially Miss Anna Hiles, who displayed the excellent qualities of her pure soprano voice to the utmost advantage, and Miss Fennell, who sang "How beautiful are the feet" with admirable expression. Mr. Grattan Kelly was also most efficient in the solos allotted to him; but unfortunately the indisposition of Mr. Topham prevented his singing the whole of the tenor music, and some of it, in consequence, fell to the share of Miss Fennell. The choruses were all sung with a precision which gave ample evidence of the careful training of Mr. O'Rorke, who conducted the entire performance with the utmost judgment.

EDINBURGH.—Although the attendance at the Saturday Evening Concerts has been somewhat discouraging for the last few weeks, Mr. M'Laren has not relaxed in his efforts to supply the public with good music. The production of an oratorio was a somewhat hazardous experiment; but the result fully justified the attempt, the music hall being filled in every part, whilst many were unable to obtain admission. The work selected was Handel's *Judas Maccabeus*, the principal vocalists being Miss Anna Hiles, Miss Helen Kirk, Mr. Inkersall, and Mr. Weiss, all of whom acquitted themselves most admirably in the music allotted to them. There was a very good orchestra, under the steady and efficient leadership of Mr. A. C. Mackenzie, Mr. Longbottom conducted, and Mr. Bridgman presided at the organ.

ELLAND.—The members of the Elland Choral Society gave a miscellaneous Concert in the National School on Monday evening, January 21st. The pianist and conductor was Mr. Moore, organist at the Parish Church, Halifax. The artists were Miss Anna Hiles, Mr. Brook, of Huddersfield, and Mr. Hinchcliffe, of Leeds. The favourite of the evening was Miss Hiles, whose singing of "Sad as my Soul," was remarkably effective. She also proved very successful in "When the Cuckoo comes again" and "Where the Bee sucks." Mr. Hinchcliffe was in excellent voice, and gave "Hob the miller" and "Keep your powder dry" very well. Mr. Brook sang "Old Towler," "The bloom is on the rye," and "The white squall." The choruses by the members of the Society were remarkably well sung, all the parts being fairly balanced. The glees were Bishop's "When wearied wretches," and Whittaker's "Breath of the briar."

GREENOCK.—At a Concert given on the 18th ult., at which Mr. Sims Reeves appeared, a scene took place which has excited more attention in the local papers than the music itself. It seems that when the great Tenor attempted to sing Blumenthal's song "The Message," a baby uttered a piercing cry; and Mr. Reeves immediately stepped forward and requested that it should be removed. The unfortunate woman who had charge of the child was politely shown out of the room by Mr. Airlie, secretary of the Glasgow Abstainers' Union; but the audience would not quietly submit to have the matter so easily settled; and when Mr. Reeves re-commenced his song he was met by a storm of hisses and discordant sounds, and was compelled to retire from the platform amidst "a howl of displeasure." On his re-appearance, he was still more violently hissed, some requesting him to "Sing the Two Babies," and after a few minutes he was again obliged to leave the room. Two or three gentlemen attempted to address the audience, and Mr. Reeves was eventually enabled to sing Kiicken's Serenade "Twilight is darkening," and also to give the song which he commenced when the interruption took place. The other vocalists were Miss Laura Baxter, Miss Kirk, and Mr. Weiss. Mr. Berger presided at the pianoforte, and Mr. Poulter performed some selections on the organ; but, as we have said, the "baby" riot was the principal event of the evening. [There can be no doubt that the protest of Mr. Sims Reeves against an interruption which utterly prevented his singing was perfectly right; and that the unseemly conduct of the audience was as perfectly wrong. An artist should be protected, and not insulted, by those in whose presence he is pursuing his art; and no excuse, therefore, can justify the prolongation of the disturbance after the cause of it had been removed. *ED. MUSICAL TIMES.*]

GOOLE.—A Concert in aid of the Oaks Colliery Accident Fund was given on the 13th ult. in the Scientific Hall, which was highly successful. We have not space to name the principal items in the programme; but have pleasure in giving publicity to the fact that the entertainment was promoted by Messrs. Jilott and Benham, and that they will be enabled to forward £15 to the Mansion House Fund.

HESTON.—On Monday evening, 28th January, the course of public readings and lectures, which have been delivered

from week to week in the National School-rooms, was brought to a close by a Concert given by the Heston and Southall United Tonic Sol-fa Choirs, under the able conductorship of Mr. J. H. Wark. The programme contained a very pleasing variety of music, selected from the works of Handel, Mendelssohn, and several modern composers. The first part opened with Mendelssohn's dignified and impressive chorale, "Let all men praise the Lord." This was followed by the duet and chorus, "Hail, Judea," from Handel's *Judas Maccabæus*, the duet being sung by Miss Wark and Miss Hazell in a very pleasing manner. Part the second commenced with a selection from Dr. Spark's *Ode to Labour*, and was followed by several glees and part-songs, all very creditably rendered by the choir, under the direction of Mr. Wark.

HULL.—On Thursday evening, January 24th, the Harmonic Society gave a very successful performance of Mendelssohn's *Elijah*. The soloists were Miss Newell, Miss Newbould, Miss Grieve, Mr. Moulding, and Mr. Dodds. Mrs. Watson presided at the organ. Mr. Haddock led the band, and Mr. Stephenson conducted.

LAUNCESTON, TASMANIA.—The second Concert of the Philharmonic Society took place on the 27th November, in the hall of the Mechanics' Institute. The programme was made up of a number of hackneyed pieces; but most of the glees were well received by the audience, and several were encored. A concert was given on the 4th December at the school-room, adjoining St. John's Church, by the members of the St. John's Choir. The entertainment consisted chiefly of choral music, which was on the whole very well sung. The concert was under the direction of Mr. Thomas Sharp, organist of St. John's, and was well attended.

LEEDS.—On Thursday evening, the 14th ult., a Concert was given in the Holbeck Mechanics' Institute by the choir of the Harrogate Parish Church, assisted by Mr. Matthew Arnold, organist and choirmaster. The gem of the evening was the song and chorus, "Beautiful Isle of the Sea," sung by Mr. G. R. Parker. The song, "Slave Chase," by Mr. Watson, was deservedly encored. Several glees were rendered in a manner which well merited the approbation they received. Mr. Matthew Arnold presided at the pianoforte. On the 15th ult. Dr. Spark's Choir entertained a large party of the residents of the town and neighbourhood at a *soirée musicale* in the new assembly room adjoining the Queen's Hotel. A number of glees and part songs were very excellently given; and Dr. Spark's "Ode to Labour," written for the opening of the Industrial Exhibition at the Agricultural Hall, London, occupied a prominent place in the programme. Several solos were also given by Miss E. Wurtzburg, Miss Helena Walker, Miss Beverley, Mr. W. C. Bell, and Mr. John Wilkinson; and Miss Wurtzburg played Bach's Gigue in G major on the pianoforte. Dr. Spark being unfortunately unable to preside, in consequence of a domestic bereavement, Mr. Bowling kindly undertook the office of conductor.

LIVERPOOL.—The second subscription Concert for 1867 of the Philharmonic Society was given on the 5th ult., and went off with considerable spirit, though the more musical part of the audience had to complain of the absence of the usual *Sinfonia*, for which they have doubtless a right to look, possessing, as the society does, an orchestra so well qualified to interpret high class compositions. The principal instrumental feature of the evening's programme was Mendelssohn's Pianoforte Concerto in G minor, performed with the most consummate feeling by Madame Schumann, who also gave with great effect her husband's "Romanze in D minor," Hiller's "Zur Gitarre," and a "Scherzo," by Weber. Spohr's overture to "Der Berggeist," and Beethoven's first written to "Leonora," were played with great fire, as well as Meyerbeer's "Schiller-fest Marsch." The principal vocal performers were Mlle. Sinico, whose clever singing has made her a great favourite with this audience, and Signor Foli, who sang Mozart's "Per questa bella mano," and Handel's "O ruddier than the cherry," in very excellent style. The choral music was also well performed, the most remarkable work being Gounod's "Here by Babylon's Wave."

MAIDSTONE.—On the evening of Tuesday, the 5th ult., a performance in aid of the fund for a new organ was given at the Lecture Hall, King-street, when a selection from Costa's *Eli* and Haydn's First Mass was performed with orchestral accompaniments. Mr. J. H. Steer conducted, and Mr. George Tolhurst presided at the harmonium.

MARKET HARBOUROUGH.—An Amateur Concert, under distinguished patronage, was given on Tuesday evening, the 5th ult., in aid of the funds of the national schools. The soloists were:—Mrs. Sargeant, Mr. R. Symington, Mr. W. Hay, and Mr. Healey. Miss Studd and Mrs. Douglass presided at the pianoforte.

MUCH WENLOCK.—The Wenlock Choir gave its annual vocal and instrumental Concert in the Corn Exchange on Monday, the 18th ult. Mr. Austin Herbert, organizing choir-master to the South Shropshire Choral Union, gave his valuable assistance, and gained great applause by his singing of "The Pilgrim of Love" and "The Death of Nelson." The programme consisted of songs, duets, part-songs, glees, and pianoforte and violin solos. Solo violin, Mr. Bruckshaw; pianoforte, Miss Patten and Mr. Bruckshaw; conductor, Mr. Edward Stroud.

NEW YORK.—Six "Musical Recreations," given by Mason and Hamlin, appear to have been organised to display their "Cabinet Organs," as most of the compositions in the programme forwarded to us are arranged for that instrument in combination

with the violin, violoncello, and pianoforte. We can, of course, offer no opinion on the merits either of instruments or instrumentalists. The last of these concerts, the music of which seems to be judiciously selected, took place on the 19th ult.

NORTHWICH, CHESHIRE.—On Monday evening, the 7th ult., an interesting miscellaneous Concert was given by the children of the Navigation Weaver School, assisted by the Trinity Church Choir. The children gave several part-songs, &c., suitably arranged, under the guidance of the School-master, Mr. Lofthouse, who also played two solos on the violin in a very able manner from the works of De Beriot and L. Jansa. The Church Choir acquitted themselves most satisfactorily under the able conductorship of Mr. Twiss.

OVER, CHESHIRE.—On Wednesday evening, the 13th ult., an amateur Concert was given in the School Room of St. John's Church, Over, by some ladies and gentlemen amateurs. Many excellent songs, glees, &c., were given in first-rate style, also a violin solo by Mr. Lofthouse, of Northwich. The pianoforte solo players were Mrs. Deakin, of Winsford, Miss Twiss, of Hartford, Miss Hopkins, of Marbury, and Mrs. Woodyatt, of St. John's. Mr. Twiss acted as conductor and accompanist.

QUEENBORO'.—An amateur Concert in aid of the funds of the Queenboro' Philanthropic Society was given on Friday, the 15th ult., in the ancient Court Hall. The vocalists were Mrs. Burbidge, the Misses Absale, Bridal, Felkin, H. Hall, and Rogerson, and Messrs. J. Austen, Bridal, G. Bridal, Davis, A. Hall, and J. Rogerson. Mr. Bridal (organist of Newington) acting as conductor and shewing great skill in that capacity. At the close of the concert Mr. Josiah Hall proposed a vote of thanks to the Mayor for the use of the Court Hall, to the performers for their valuable service, and to friends at Sheerness for their support.

ST. ANDREWS.—A Concert was given on Friday evening, January 25th, in the Town Hall, by the St. Andrew's Amateur Choral Society. The programme included "O come let us worship," Mendelssohn; Topliffe's "Consider the lilies;" Gounod's "By Babylon's wave," in the first part; and Macfarren's "Who is Sylvia?" Bishop's "Sleep gentle lady," &c., in the second. The soloists were Miss Haig, Miss F. Hodge, Col. Moncrieff, and Sir Robert Anstruther. Mr. Salter conducted.

SOMERTON.—Mr. Loaring, of Yeovil, and a large party of vocal and instrumental performers gave a Concert here on the occasion of the re-opening of the Town Hall, which has just been enlarged. Upwards of 400 persons were present, and the concert was altogether a great success.

SPOFFORTH.—A Concert of secular music was given in the Church School Room on Monday, the 21st January, by the members of the Bilton and Arthington Choirs, assisted by Miss C. Trenham. Miss Trenham, who possesses a rich soprano voice, sang "Welcome my bonnie lad," Arne's "Cuckoo song," and "Truth in absence," in such a manner as in each case to be loudly encored. The glees, part-songs, &c., were rendered in the most finished style, and elicited several *encores*. Mr. Arnold, organist of Christ Church, Harrogate, presided at the pianoforte.

SYDNEY.—A numerous attended private Concert was given by a party of amateurs on the evening of Saint Andrew's Day, November 30th. An appropriate prologue preceded the Overture, *Il Barbiere*. The orchestra also gave operatic selections by Rossini and Donizetti. The songs were sung with great taste; and it must have been gratifying to the amateur performers to find their efforts so thoroughly appreciated by the audience they had invited.

ORGAN APPOINTMENTS.—Mr. W. F. Naish to the Parish Church, Chipping Norton, Oxon.—Mr. C. E. Hewitt to the Parish Church, Drypool, Kingston-upon-Hull.—Mr. J. W. E. Dinelli has been appointed choir-master of the Horsham Church Choral Association.

THE ENGLISH GLEE UNION (Messrs. H. Ashton, C. Phillips, C. Clagett, and J. Rudkin). Secretary, Mr. J. Rudkin, R.A.M., 122, Culford-road, N.

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